

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 00178 100926Z

20

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 IO-10 OMB-01 SCCT-01 /080 W

----- 116580

R 100840Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5177

INFO AMEMBSSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBSSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 0178

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IS, XF

SUBJECT: GOI ISSUES STATEMENT CRITICIZING MAPAM OFFICIAL'S
MEETING WITH PLO REPRESENTATIVE

REF:(A) TEL AVIV 118(NOTAL)

(B) TEL AVIV131(NOTAL)

1. ISRAELI PRESS JANUARY 9 CARRIED REPORT OF STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED
TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN JEUSALME (MOSTLY LIKELY MFA)
CRITICIZING MEETING OF MAPAM POLITICAL SECRETARY NAFTALI
FEDER WITH PLO REPRESENTATIVE. STATEMENT REPORTEDLY
SAID""CUSH MEETINGS UNDERMINE ISRAELI EFFORTS ABROAD TO EXPOSE
THE TRUE CHARACTER OF THE PLO AS THE ROOF BODY OF SEVERAL TERRORIST
GANGS WHICH WOULD DENY ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST." FACT THAT
MEETING HAD BEEN "UNPLANNED AND BRIEF" COULD PERHAPS EXPLAIN
CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH BROUGHT IT ABOUT, STATEMENT EXPLAINED, BUT
PRECEDENT FOR OTHER ISRAELIS. FEDE'S POSITION AS POLITICAL FIGURE
MADE INCIDENT ALL THE MORE REGRETTABLE.

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2. PRESS REPORTS ADD THAT TOP GOI OFFICIAL PRIVATELY HAVE SHARPLY DISAPPROVED FEDER'S ACTION, POINTING OUT THAT ISRAEL HAS IN RECENT MONTHS TAKEN ISSUE WITH SEVERAL WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIS FOR DOING PRECISELY WHAT FEDER DID--MEETING A PLO OFFICIL AND STRESSING TO HIM THAT NO PROGRESS WITH PLO WAS POSSIBLE UNLESS IT CEASED TO CALL FOR ISRAEL'S ELIMINATION AS A STATE,

3. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT STATEMENT, ON HEELS OF UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT BY OPPOSITION LIKUD JANUARY 7 TO SCHEDULE POLITICAL DEBATE ON FEDER'S MEETING WITH PLO AS WELL AS CRITICISM WITHIN LABOR ALIGNMENT RANKS, HOPEULY CAPS POLITICAL FUROR CREATED BY INCIDENT.
KEATING

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